



Indianapolis
Gregory A. Ballard, Mayor

NEWS RELEASE

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MAYOR BALLARD ANNOUNCES NEIGHBORHOOD CLEANUP PLAN TO COMBAT ILLEGAL DUMPING AND TRASH

INDIANAPOLIS – Mayor Greg Ballard and the Department of Code Enforcement (DCE) today announced a plan to clean up trash accumulated on private properties and debris illegally dumped in Indy neighborhoods.

“In order to attract and retain residents, Indy must offer clean and attractive neighborhoods for people to live,” said Mayor Greg Ballard. “Illegal dumping and trash lower property values and encourages crime and vandalism. This new program will work to hold responsible those who dump trash illegally while helping victims clean up their home.”

Mirrored after Indy’s successful High Weeds and Grass program, beginning June 1, citizens should report illegal dumping and trash to the Mayor’s Action Center (327-4MAC). DCE will send an inspector to the location in an attempt to identify who dumped the materials. If the trash or materials were illegally dumped on private property, the owner can sign an affidavit and DCE will send a crew to clean up the property at no cost to the property owner. If an affidavit is not signed and the property owner fails to clean up the trash, a city contractor will clean up the site and the property owner will be billed for the cleanup costs. If the city is forced to cleanup a private lot more than twice, DCE will work with the property owner to erect preventative measures to stop the dumping.

If the trash is located on public property, the location will be referred to Department of Public Works for cleanup.

“Our mission has always been to strengthen our city by improving the quality of life for our residents,” said DCE Director Rick Powers. “Under the Mayor’s visionary and fiscal leadership, Indianapolis has created an abatement program that will beautify neighborhoods all across our city, without any burden to taxpayers.

DCE will use previously unbudgeted funds and fine revenue to fund this abatement program. Persons who dump trash and debris illegally can face civil prosecution and a fine of up to \$2,500 if convicted.

The mission of the Department of Code Enforcement (DCE) is to improve the quality of life in the City of Indianapolis through strategic application of civil code regulation; effective licensing, permitting, inspection, enforcement, and abatement practices; and local government oversight of property safety and maintenance, business, event, professional, and construction industries.

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